

12

DIV. II.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

A 24 .7.35

Denholme Urban Sanitary Authority.

NO 1038/1

Hsg Stats 12/7.

MIN. OF HEALTH
A 2 2 JUL 1935

63

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

On the Sanitary condition of the
Denholme Urban Sanitary District
with tabular returns of mortality

DURING THE YEAR 1934.

THORNTON, BRADFORD,

June, 1935.

TO THE DENHOLME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of your District along with the vital statistics for the year ending 31st December, 1934.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District—2536 acres

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population 1934—2568

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1934

according to Rate books—872

Rateable value—£13315.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£50 7s. 5d

SOCIAL CONDITIONS. The population is almost entirely composed of the well-to-do and thrifty artizan class, engaged in the woollen mills, stone quarries, agricultural and dairy farms of the district; a large number travel to the neighbouring towns and are employed as wool-sorters, warehousemen, and in the engineering trades.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Males	Females	Total
LIVE	{ Legitimate	17	16	33
BIRTHS	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0

Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population—

Still Births nil

Rate per 1000 total (live and still births)—12·8

DEATHS. 23 Males. 16 Females. Total 39.

Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population 15·1

Deaths from puerperal causes—nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :

(all infants per 1000 live births) ... 60·6

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births 60·6

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births, nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	nil
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)		nil

The Birth and Death rates compared with those of last year and with the average rates for England and Wales are shown in the following table :

	England & Wales	1934	1933
Birth rate	14.8	12.8	11.1
Death rate	11.8	15.1	16.1
Infantile Mortality	59	60.6	103.4

The following Table shows the ages at death.

Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and over
1	0	0	1	7	30

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The Public Health Officers of the Authority consist of a part-time Medical Officer of Health, and a Sanitary Inspector who is also Surveyor, and they are supplemented by the School Medical Officers, Health Visitors, and Veterinary Officers of the West Riding County Council.

All arrangements for Hospital treatment, whether for Fever, Small Pox, Tuberculosis or Maternity cases remain the same as in 1933.

Provision for ambulance facilities is satisfactory.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

i. WATER. The district has an abundant supply of excellent drinking water ; almost all the houses have a piped supply from either the Thornton moor reservoir of the Bradford Corporation or that of Messrs. W. & H. Foster, Ltd. Some of the outlying parts of the district still have to depend on springs and wells, which give a good supply, however, of pure water.

ii. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Since the completion of the sewage disposal works at the north end of the district, practically all the dwelling houses in that area are now within reach of the main sewer leading to these works. Only the southern end of the district requires sewerage and a means of sewage disposal.

iii. RIVERS AND STREAMS. There is one small stream running through the district, and it is mostly formed by the overflow from the reservoirs ; it is comparatively free from pollution.

iv. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.	1934	1933	1932
Privies with covered middens	112	113	106
" open middens	9	9	10
Pail or Tub Closets	29	29	28
Waste Water Closets	30	31	32
Water Closets	673	661	641
Chemical Closets	2	2	2

v. PUBLIC CLEANSING. The Scavenging of the district is carried out by the Council's staff in a satisfactory manner. A covered-in dust cart is used for collecting house refuse and ashes, and conveying same to the tips. 1195 loads have been disposed of at the tips at a cost, for the year, of £303.

vi. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following is a tabular statement of the inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector :

Inspection for nuisances in 1934	887
Nuisances found in 1934	26
" in hand at end of 1933	3
Total needing abatement	29
Nuisances abated during 1934	28
" outstanding at end of 1934	1
Informal notices served	26
" " complied with	26
Statutory notices served	nil
Summonses or other legal proceedings	nil

vii. SMOKE ABATEMENT. The Sanitary Inspector takes observations from time to time, but no action has been found necessary.

viii. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. There are 6 factories and 15 workshops, including 3 bakehouses in the district, all of which have been inspected at intervals, and have been found in a satisfactory condition.

ix. OFFENSIVE TRADES. There is only one in the district. It is a knacker's yard, where bone boiling is carried on, and it has been inspected frequently and found in a satisfactory condition.

x. MORTUARY and VAN DWELLINGS. There is no satisfactory mortuary for housing the dead, the only accommodation being at present a shed which is without water supply, and it houses the snow plough and other roadway conveyances

There is one van-dwelling, but no cellar-dwellings and no lodging-houses in the district.

xi. SCHOOLS. There is one public elementary school in the district, a substantial stone building, well lighted and ventilated, and has a plentiful water supply; it has been visited on many occasions, and found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The health of the pupils has been good on the whole, for it has not been necessary to close the school on any occasion. There have been mild epidemics of measles, chicken-pox, and mumps, but not a single case of diphtheria, in spite of the fact that the surrounding townships experienced severe epidemics of a very virulent type of this disease. In view of the prevalence of diphtheria this year opportunity was given, by the West Riding County Council, to the parents of scholars to have their children immunized against the malady. The method used was that employing three doses distributed over a period of three or four weeks, this being the most satisfactory method for children, causing little or no general reaction, and only a moderate local reaction. The total number of children inoculated or immunized was 64, the ages varying from the youngest to the oldest.

During Health Week a talk on health matters was given to the scholars by myself, and the subject of Health was also given wide publicity by means of posters and literature, published by the National Health and Cleanliness Council, posted up in the village, and distributed in the school and throughout the district. A Health film was also exhibited in the Mechanics' Hall and attracted large audiences.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

The total number of houses in the district is 885, of which about 90 per cent are of the working-class type. The total number of inhabited houses, according to the rate books at the end of 1934 was 872. There are 417 blind back houses, and 240 back-to-back houses in the district.

There is need and demand for modern working-class dwellings, for many of the existing houses both back-to-back and single-back type although soundly built of stone, are built directly up from the footpath with no ground either front or back belonging exclusively to them. Many houses lack bath rooms, many have no facilities for conveniently washing clothes and in some the facilities for food storage are poor.

The Fieldhead Building Estate was commenced with four pairs of semi-detached houses, privately built, and these are being offered for sale.

Six houses were in course of erection at Ogden Lane to rehouse the tenants from the Low Fold and Low Clough Clearance areas.

The Council is planning to erect further modern working-class houses which will be a valuable contribution to the housing question.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :

(i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	32
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	28
(iii) Total number of inspections made ...	32
(iv) Number of dwelling-houses needing further action	30
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	22
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	8

II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	5
---	---

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

(a) Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	nil
2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	nil
(a) By owners	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	nil
---	-----

2	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	...	...	nil
	(a) By owners	...	...	nil
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners			nil
(c)	Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :			
1	Number of representations, etc. made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation			nil
2	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition orders were made			nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders			nil
4	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners, section 19 (2)			nil
(a)	to render houses fit for human habitation			nil
(b)	as to usage other than for human habitation			nil
(d)	Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :			
1	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made	...	...	nil
2	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms closed in pursuance of Closing orders	...	...	nil
3	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit			nil
(e)	Outstanding houses dealt with during 1934 under the Housing Act 1925 :			
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders were outstanding			nil
2	Number of above dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders were determined, houses having been made fit	...		nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses, above, in respect of which Demolition orders were made			nil
4	Number of above dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders			nil

IV. Unhealthy Areas :

Low Fold Clearance Area comprising four houses inhabited by 12 persons ; Low Clough Clearance Area comprising three houses and inhabited by 14 persons ; Compulsory Purchase orders were approved by the Ministry in both cases. Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, Glenville Mount, and 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Well St., and nos. 6 and 7, High Gate were recommended by the Council to be included as Clearance areas. Two houses were closed as the result of informal action, and another agreed by the owner to be closed as soon as alternative accommodation is found.

SECTION E INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. There are 61 cowsheds in the district with an average number of 440 cows. The number of separate cowkeepers is 29, the number of registered milksellers 12, and of wholesale traders is 17. The cowsheds and the cows are frequently inspected both by the Sanitary Officer and the County Veterinary Officer. The cleanliness of the cows and the milking utensils, as well as the cowsheds, is satisfactory on the whole, and is certainly improving year by year.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. There are 4 private slaughter-houses in the district, of which 3 are licenced and 1 is registered.

(c) BAKEHOUSES. There are 3 in the district, and they have been found to be in a satisfactory condition on inspection.

SECTION F. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The only notifiable Infectious Diseases occurring during the year were two cases of Scarlet Fever and two of Erysipelas ; no cases of Small Pox, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Puerperal Fever, or Ophthalmic Neonatorum occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS. There was one primary notification of the Pulmonary form.

I append Tables C. and D. and Form 572.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. W. N. BLACKMORE,
M.B., Ch. B. (Edin.)